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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Guido M. Campagna et al.  
Serial Number: 09/765,782  
Filing Date: January 19, 2001  
Examiner/Art Group Unit: Hook, James F./3752  
Title: CORROSION RESISTANT METAL TUBE AND  
PROCESS FOR MAKING THE SAME

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.312**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ATTENTION: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEES

Transmitted with this document is a Postcard; and an Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☐ Charge \$.00 to Deposit Account Number 25-0115.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency or credit any excess in the enclosed fees to Deposit Account Number 25-0115.
- ☐ Applicant(s), and the Assignee (if applicable), hereby assert a claim to small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27 et. seq.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fees; Commissioner for Patents; PO Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 22, 2005.

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**Sir:**

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following communication, they may be paid out of our Deposit Account No. 25-0115.

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.312, and in response to the Notice of Allowance dated , please enter the following amendments shown in the attached papers to the present application as follows:

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**Amendments to the Abstract.**

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**Amendments to the Specification.**

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**Amendments to the Claims.**

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**Amendments to the Drawings.**

**Amendments to the Specification:**

In the paragraph beginning on line 23, page 8 and ending on line 29,

page 9, please make the following change:

The external surface of the zinc based coating is treated to seal the zinc based coating to prolong its corrosion resistance and to provide a suitable surface for application of and bonding to extruded multiple layers of plastic to be subsequently supplied. The surface treatment of the zinc based coating is at least one of the surface sealing treatments selected from the group of a phosphate coating, a chromate coating including the clear, yellow and green versions, a zinc-aluminum alloy coating, and combinations thereof. A suitable zinc-aluminum alloy and coating is described in United States Patent Number 4,448,748 which is incorporated herein by reference, and ASTM Designation: B750-88 provides a standard specification for zinc-5% aluminum-mischmetal alloy in ingot form hot-dip coatings, which is also incorporated herein by reference. Metal tubing pretreatment prior to plastic application can include combinations such as zinc-aluminum alloy with a phosphate coating and a chromate coating, zinc plate with a chromate coating, zinc plate with a phosphate coating and a chromate coating, galvanized zinc with a phosphate coating and/or a chromate coating, zinc-nickel alloy plate with a phosphate coating and/or a chromate coating, zinc-cobalt alloy with a phosphate coating and/or a chromate coating, a chromate coating of the clear, yellow and green versions, and combinations thereof. The pretreatment of the metal surface prior to the zinc base coating can include sand, shot or bead blasting, or other means of abrading the surface to roughen it, or detergent cleaning with rinse and acid pickling followed by a rinse. Any suitable surface abrading or etching process, either chemical or mechanical, may be used as a pretreatment prior to any other surface treatment and/or prior to extruding plastic onto the metal surface. The chromate coating can be applied as a wash having essentially no remaining weight. The zinc-aluminum alloy coating can be applied with a weight selected in a range of between 36 to 95 g/m<sup>2</sup> inclusive, and with a preferred weight range of between 75 to 80 g/m<sup>2</sup> inclusive and a most preferred weight of 78 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The phosphate coating can be applied with a weight in the range of between 120 to 250 mg/ft<sup>2</sup> (1.292 to 2.691 g/m<sup>2</sup>) inclusive. The zinc based coating on the metal surface is preferably a weight in the range of between 13 to 35 microns inclusive.